



Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Walter H. Kiser

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



2

March 12, 1936

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Director, Lincoln National Foundation
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Warren:-

You will find enclosed a stamped envelope and paper also sketches of places in and about Elizabethtown Ky. done by me.

The reason for me writing this letter is that you may be able to help me along this particular line of work that I am doing. Mrs. L. F. Hoke of Elizabethtown, Ky. told me that you knew the history of the "Skaegs Barber Shop which is the oldest house standing in Elizabethtown, Ky.

I would like for you to tell me some one who could be able to tell me of some places to sketch while in Hodgenville and La Rue County, Ky. I understand that you resided here for a number of years. If you could give me a list of places such as old homes, covered bridges, old water power mills in this county or some of the neighboring counties. You also might be able to tell me of some other buildings that might be interesting to sketch. I would like to have a list from you and the name and address of someone who now reside there in that county at present that could give me this information too.

If you will notice my sketches you will see the date as to when these were published in the "Louisville Times." This will give you a clearer idea as to the kind of material that I would like to have. If you know anybody in Hardin county who could give me some information along this same line I will certainly appreciate this.

I understand that you are very much interested in Lincoln and I am too and have collected a great number of pictures of him. If your foundation has a booklets that have been published recently I would appreciate having some of these.

Thanking you in advance for your information in this matter I shall await your prompt reply in this matter.
I am

Yours truly,

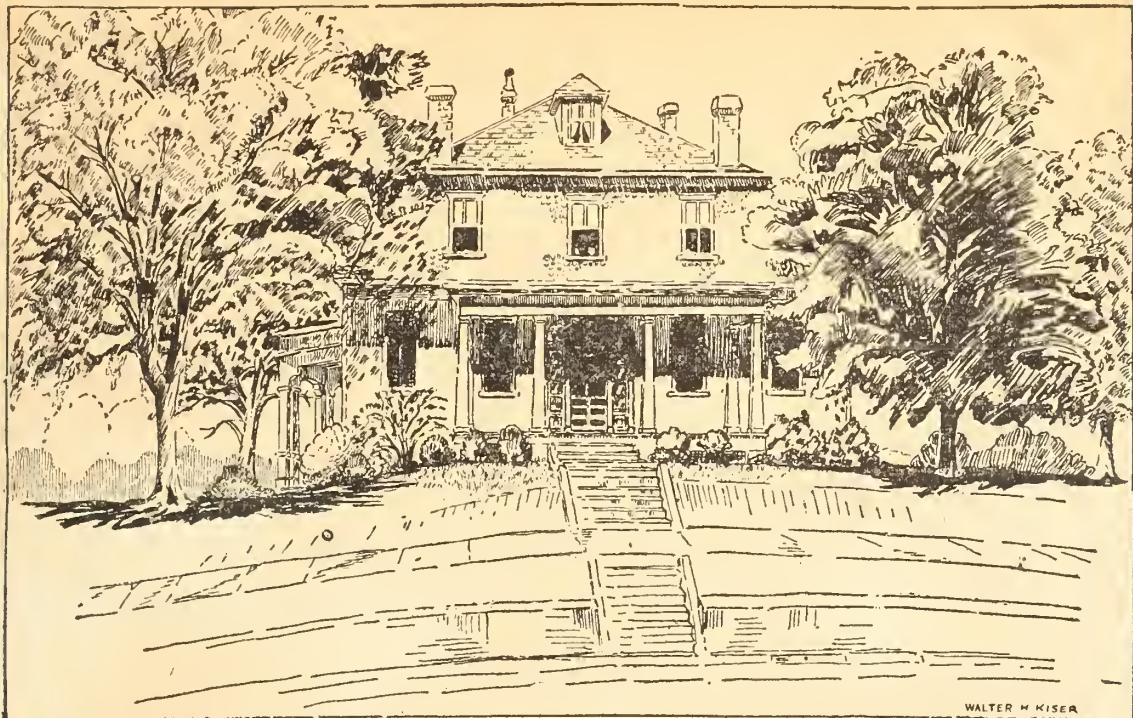
Walter H. Kiser
1504 Shelby Place

New Albany, Indiana



Neighborhood Sketches

By WALTER H. KISER



The Old Crutcher Homestead, Elizabethtown, Ky.

JUST two blocks east from the Court House, on North Main St., Elizabethtown, on the brow of a hill overlooking the city, stands the residence of the late Judge James Crutcher, which was built about the year 1820. Although more than a hundred years have elapsed since the erection of this home, the elegance and completeness of the workmanship are a challenge to subsequent building of this character. The picture shows a side view of the house;

the front view being almost identical in design. A unique feature of this home is that of the room downstairs, shown in the lefthand corner in the picture. The shuttered windows are only make-believe. The room has no outside aperture. The walls are completely covered with exquisite paintings.

Judge Crutcher was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives from Hardin County and a State Senator.

Next Monday—The Shelbyville, Ky., Graded School.

May 1935

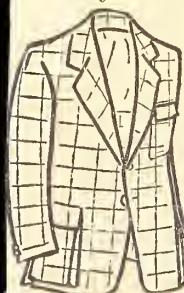
Avenues of Fashion with Esquire



A New Feature
DEVOTED TO
Men's Fashions
Brought to Our
Readers Through the
Co-operation of
Esquire

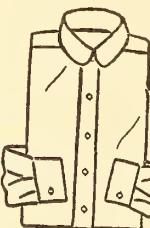
THE MAGAZINE FOR MEN

WE'VE just completed arrangements with Esquire — the brilliant, modern Magazine for Men — whereby this newspaper will release every week an ESQUIRE-edited column of fashion news for men. Since Esquire's word in masculine fashion is law in dress for men, readers can de-



pend upon the information in the new "Avenues of Fashion" column to be absolutely authoritative. The "Avenues of Fashion" feature will give real he-men the answer to "What's new and smart to wear."

"Avenues of Fashion" will solve all men's perplexing problems involving matters of correct dress. "Avenues of Fashion" will authenticate all new fashions and forecast those on the way. Start reading "Avenues of Fashion" in The Courier-Journal on Tuesday and read it every week thereafter.



change value for the domestically consumed portion of the crop."

MRS. G. F. VANDERBILT EXPIRES IN NEW YORK

New York, July 8 (P)—Mrs. Graham Fair Vanderbilt, the former Virginia Fair who married William K. Vanderbilt II. in 1899 and divorced him in 1927 after eighteen years of separation, is dead of pneumonia.

Her two daughters, Muriel and Consuelo, were at her bedside yesterday in her town house here.

Mrs. Vanderbilt was the daughter of the late Senator James Graham Fair of Nevada. She was born in San Francisco and lived there until her father's death in 1894. Her share of her father's estate—made up of a vast silver fortune from the famous Comstock lode—was estimated at \$5,000,000.

MANY CHINESE DROWN WHEN DIKES GIVE WAY

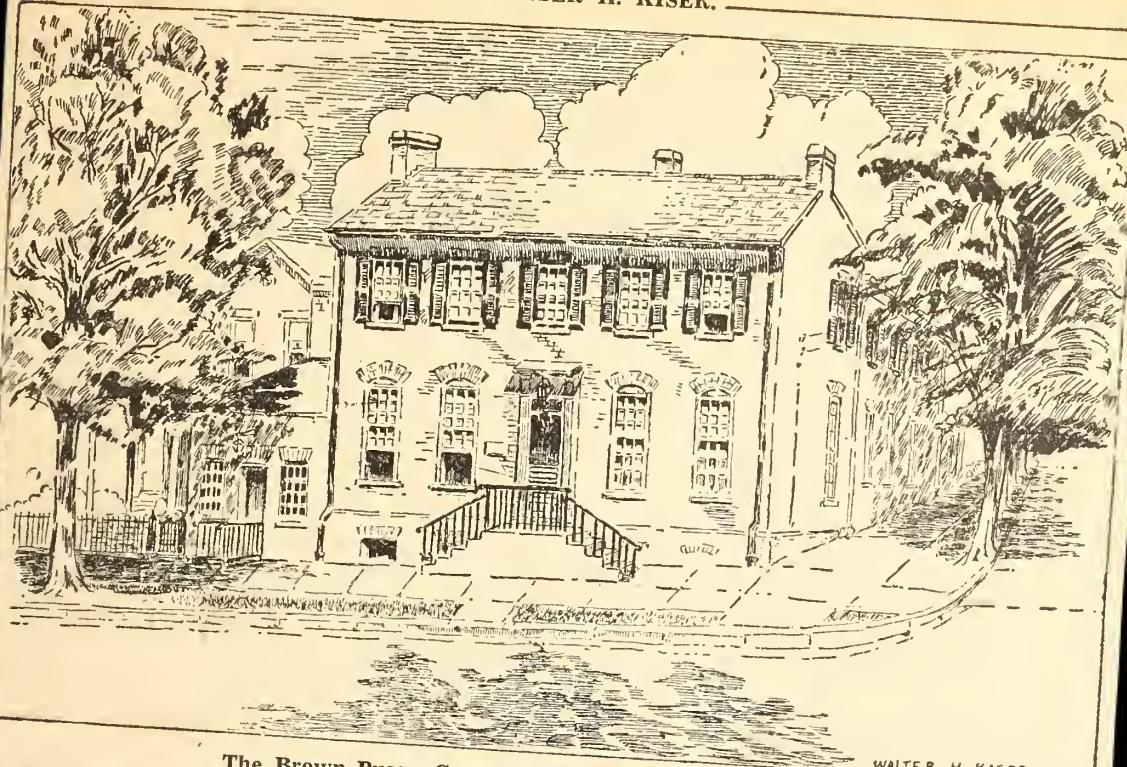
Changteh, Hunan Province, China, July 8 (P)—The dikes on the Yuen River yielded to flood pressure today, loosing a torrent that drowned many Chinese in this inland city's worst disaster in years.

The number of dead could not be determined immediately, but all members of the foreign colony—among them twelve American missionaries—were reported safe.

Ten feet of water gushed about the residences of the Americans, representing the Northern Presbyterian mission. Thousands of homes were inundated.

Neighborhood Sketches

By WALTER H. KISER.



The Brown-Pusey Community House, Elizabethtown, Ky.

WALTER H. KISER

ON a corner of Main Street, a block from the Court House, where the business and residential sections of Elizabethtown merge, stands an old brick house, where in earlier days "Aunt Beck" Hill ran one of the old-time taverns that helped make Kentucky famous for its hospitality.

The Hill house, beautifully and substantially restored after a century of service, has been rechristened the Brown-Pusey Community House, being a memorial to the parents and grandparents of Dr. W. A. Pusey and Dr. Brown Pusey, now of Chicago, and Dr. Hill Hastings and Alfred B. Hastings of Los Angeles, Calif. All the donors were former residents of

Elizabethtown and are great-nephews of "Aunt Beck" Hill.

The Hill house was in its zenith during the early Seventies, when General Custer and his command were stationed at Elizabethtown. General Custer and his wife, as well as many of the officers of higher rank, boarded with Mrs. Hill. General Custer's residence in Elizabethtown was interrupted immediately after the Chicago fire when he was ordered to that city to maintain order.

In 1851, when Jenny Lind was touring Kentucky, she spent the night in Elizabethtown and sang to a gathering of townfolk from the entrance steps of this noted inn.

Next Monday—An Old House In Bardstown, Ky.

ALAMOGO U.S.A.

2 FEATURE PICTURES

JOAN CRAWFORD
ROB'T MONTGOMERY
IN
'NO MORE LADIES'
— ALSO —
'MAN OF ARAN'

MARY ANDERSON
CAREFULLY COOLED

26¢
TO 6

James CAGNEY
Pat O'BRIEN

THE IRISH IN US
with Frank McHugh
Olivia DeHavilland

SYLVIA SIDNEY
HERBERT MARSHALL

"Accent
on
Youth"
26¢
CAREFULLY COOLED

RIALTO

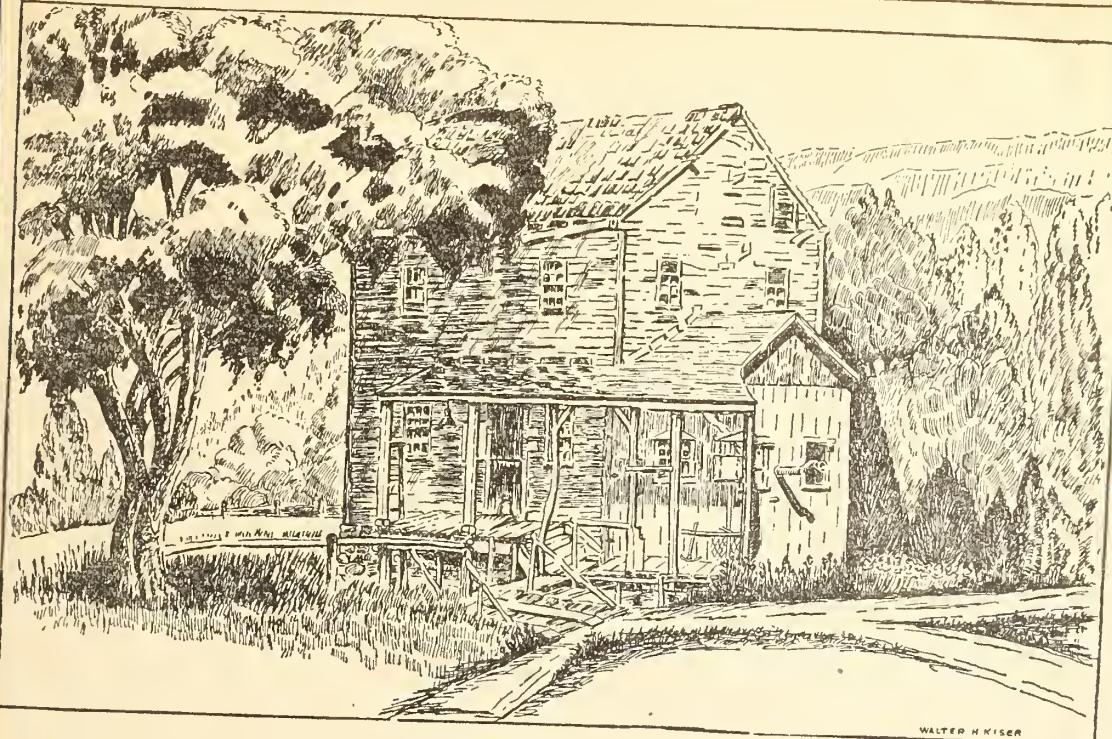
There are no ifs ands
About Chesterfield
Two words make everyth

They Say

© 1935, LIGGETT & MYERS TOBACCO CO.

Neighborhood Sketches

By WALTER H. KISER



The Otter Creek Grist Mill At Garnettsville, Ky.

ABOUT forty miles from Louisville, by way of State Road 60, is the picturesque hamlet of Garnettsville, where some 126 years ago Frank Garnett, owner of numerous slaves, began the laborious task of digging the millrace for Otter Creek Mill. Heavy, oak logs, sawed and dressed by hand, were dragged to the site

by oxen. Stone for the foundation came from the cliffs above the creek and were hauled to the mill site on sledges. The original beams, two feet square, are still a part of the building. The millstones were imported from France and hauled by ox teams from the Ohio River. The original millstones may be seen at the mill.

Next Monday—The Baumann-Gressman Homestead, Louisville.

...and this inspired the creation of a "VAPA Club." Initials stand for Verhicular Accident Prevention Association.

lays left!

4 years to enter the
n's National
h Contest

ASH PRIZES
child's picture
fascinating
(mirror) camera STUDIO

...this new, better and
ng a photograph taken.
MIRRORS enables you
and expressions you
what the camera sees.

Proofs to Select From
Second Floor

RT'S
s Co., Incorporated

...and this inspired the creation of a "VAPA Club." Initials stand for Verhicular Accident Prevention Association.

Stomach Ulcers

(caused by hyperacidity)
are now being effectively and safely treated at home through the use of Von's Pink Tablets, together with proper food directions. No need to suffer from Ulcers caused by gastric hyperacidity or other conditions due to the same cause, such as distress after eating, stomach pains, gas, sour stomach, indigestion, constipation, loss of sleep or time from work. Get quick relief without operation. Write today for FREE booklet and full information to Atlanta Von Company, 744 Walton Bldg., Atlanta, Ga. — (Advertisement).

practice.

Dear Lemme Doit: A large charity organization opens its second season of entertainment October 7 with community singing and amateur performances. We need a pianist who can play all kinds of music (not operatic) and who will contribute his or her services free. I am writing to you with the belief that if this appeal is published we shall obtain the services of a pianist. E. F. B.

E. F. B. has filed his name, address and telephone number with Lemme.

Old Tom: Getting the information you seek would be too big a job for Lemme. Go to the Filson Club.

Mrs. Leo S.: Most of the banks have coin experts.

Mrs. W. R. J.: You might try the University of Louisville for information on moths.

STATE COLLEGE DENIED P.W.A. APPROPRIATION

Washington, Sept. 9 (P)—The Public Works Administration announced the application of the Western Kentucky Teachers College, Bowling Green, had been disapproved because the cost per man-year on its projected classroom and laboratory building was too high.

The P.W.A. said the cost per man was \$1,700, nearly \$600 a year too high, under the advisory allotment board's ruling. The project was to cost \$252,819.

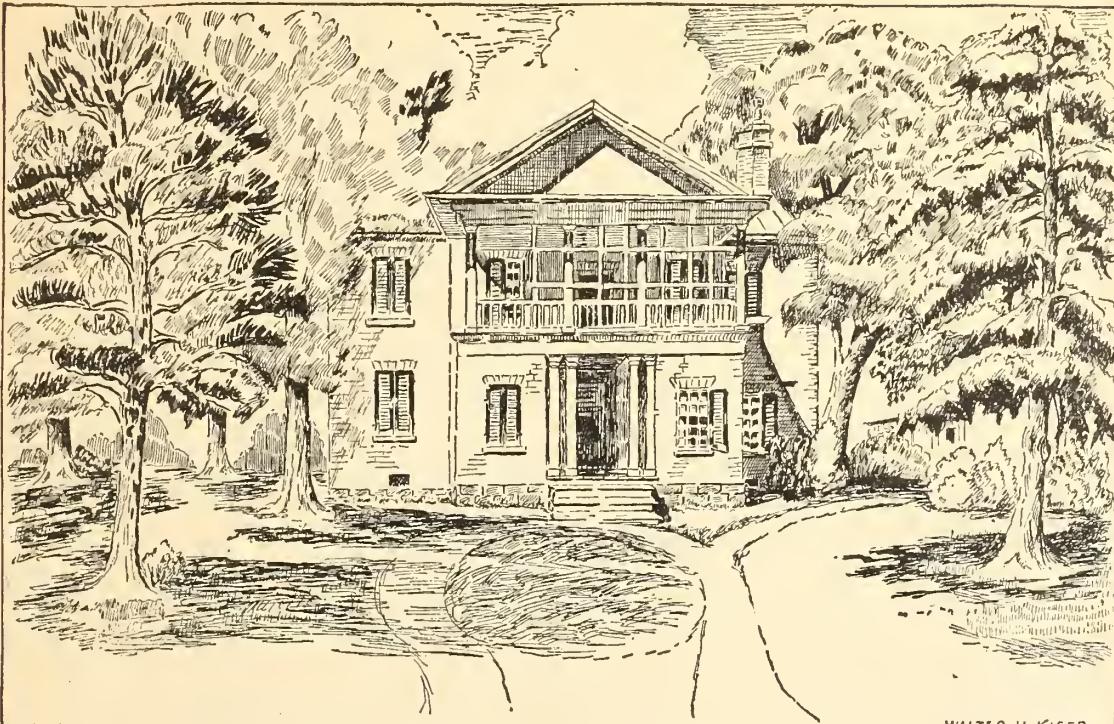
Beautifies!

A skin of luxurious softness ... a complexion of fascinating charm ... No "rubbing off" or streaking... This refined, ivory-toned beauty will command admiration.

ORIENTAL CREAM
Gouraud
White - Flesh - Rachel and Oriental-Tan

Neighborhood Sketches

By WALTER H. KISER



The Helm Place, Elizabethtown, Ky.

ON THE Dixie Highway, about a mile and a half north of Elizabethtown, is the home of the late John Larue Helm, who was twice Governor of Kentucky. The house, consisting of sixteen rooms, exclusive of halls, butler's pantry and dressing-rooms, is built of brick, which were made on the site. The land was granted to Thomas Helm, grandfather of John Larue Helm, in 1780 by the State of Virginia. At that time a log building stood just in front

of the present building. This log cabin was used as a fort as the surrounding country was inhabited by hostile Indian tribes. The present house was built in 1930 or 1931.

The entrance to the grounds is about a quarter of a mile from the house. The approach is made enchantingly romantic by an arched avenue of beautiful Scotch firs, which continues to the summit of the hill, where it opens into a circle leading to the house.

Next Monday—The Cutshaw Homestead, Bedford, Ky.

Sept. 4, 1935

Mrs. R. N. Schuhmann.
Covers were laid for Messrs. and
Mesdames G. S. Schuhmann, R. N.

BLACK AND WHITE
COLD TISSUE CREAM



00

ESDAY
on

Stewart's

The Stewart Dry Goods Co., Incorporated

LOUISVILLE
THE COU

Retail W
all Louisv
first eight
according
nal's aud
ures, as f

March 16, 1936

Mr. Walter H. Kiser
1504 Shelby Place
New Albany, Indiana

Dear Mr. Kiser:

I am very much interested indeed in the sketches you are doing in Kentucky and I wish I were there to be of some assistance to you. I am just in the office for this week end so will not have a chance to write for you a little sketch on the Skaggs building at Elizabethtown but as soon as I return week after next I will attempt to get the material together for you.

If you will see Mr. Otis Mather at Hodgenville, I am sure he is the best posted man on history in that part of old Hardin County, I know he can point you to some very fine old homes that you will want to do.

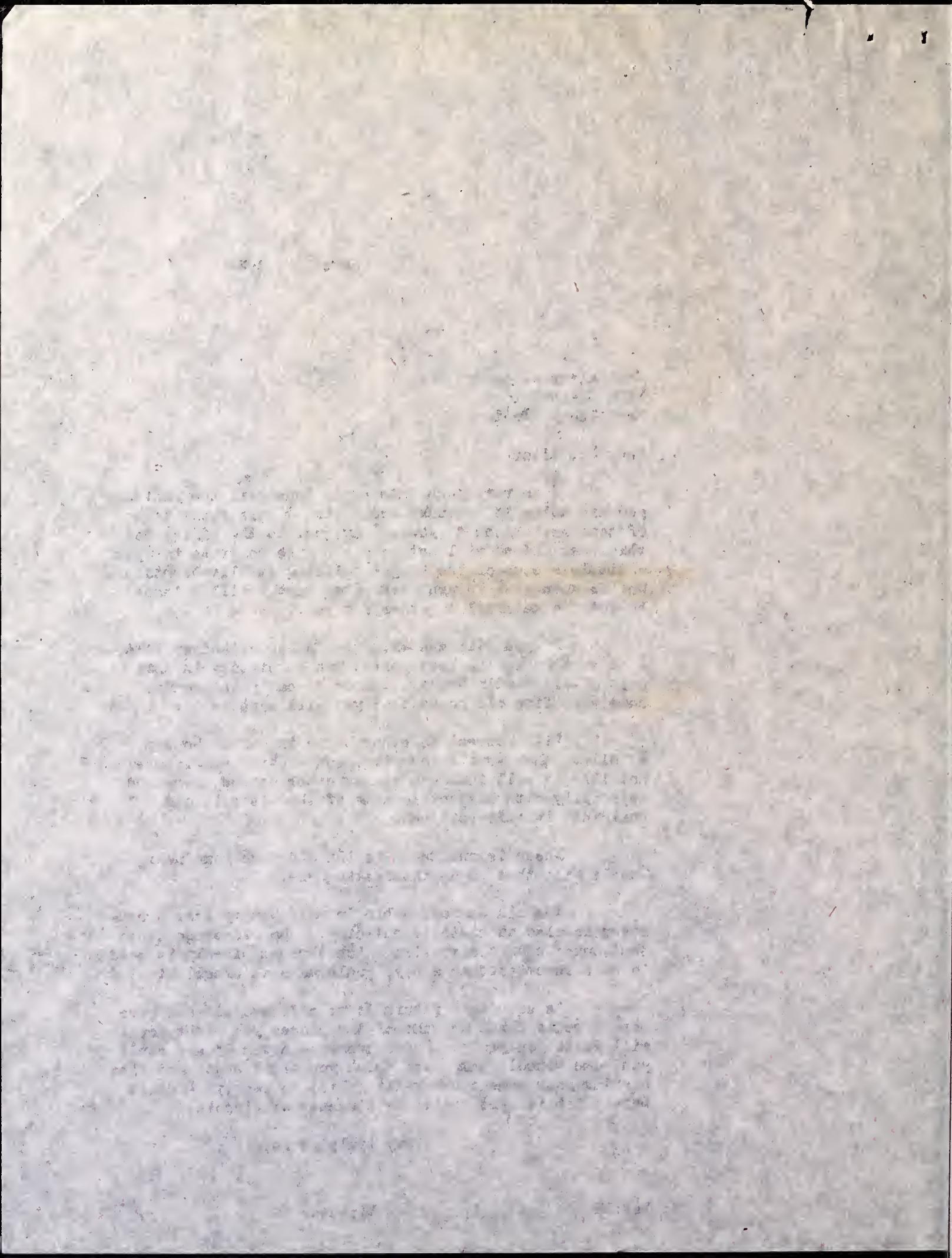
With respect to other homes in Hardin County, I believe that Gerald McMurtry, son of Mrs. L. B. Hoke, possibly is well informed as any other person there and especially with respect to some of the historic old buildings in Elizabethtown.

There is one known as the old Bush home near Tumble Hill that is an interesting one.

The old Munford cabin in Hart County near Green-river is also an historic building. The old stone house just outside of Hodgenville which Abraham Lincoln is said to have remembered as a boy, would make an excellent study.

As soon as I return to my office again and have more time to think up some of the places you might do, I will write you again. Under separate cover we are sending you some Lincoln pamphlets which you might enjoy and also placing your name on our mailing list to receive Lincoln Lore which is sent gratis to students of Lincoln.

Very truly yours,



Kiser, Walter H.

March 24, 1936

Mr. Walter H. Kiser
1504 Shelby Place
New Albany, Indiana

My dear Mr. Kiser:

I advised you in my letter of March 16 that as soon as I returned to the office, I would give you some further information about the old building now occupied by Skaggs barber shop.

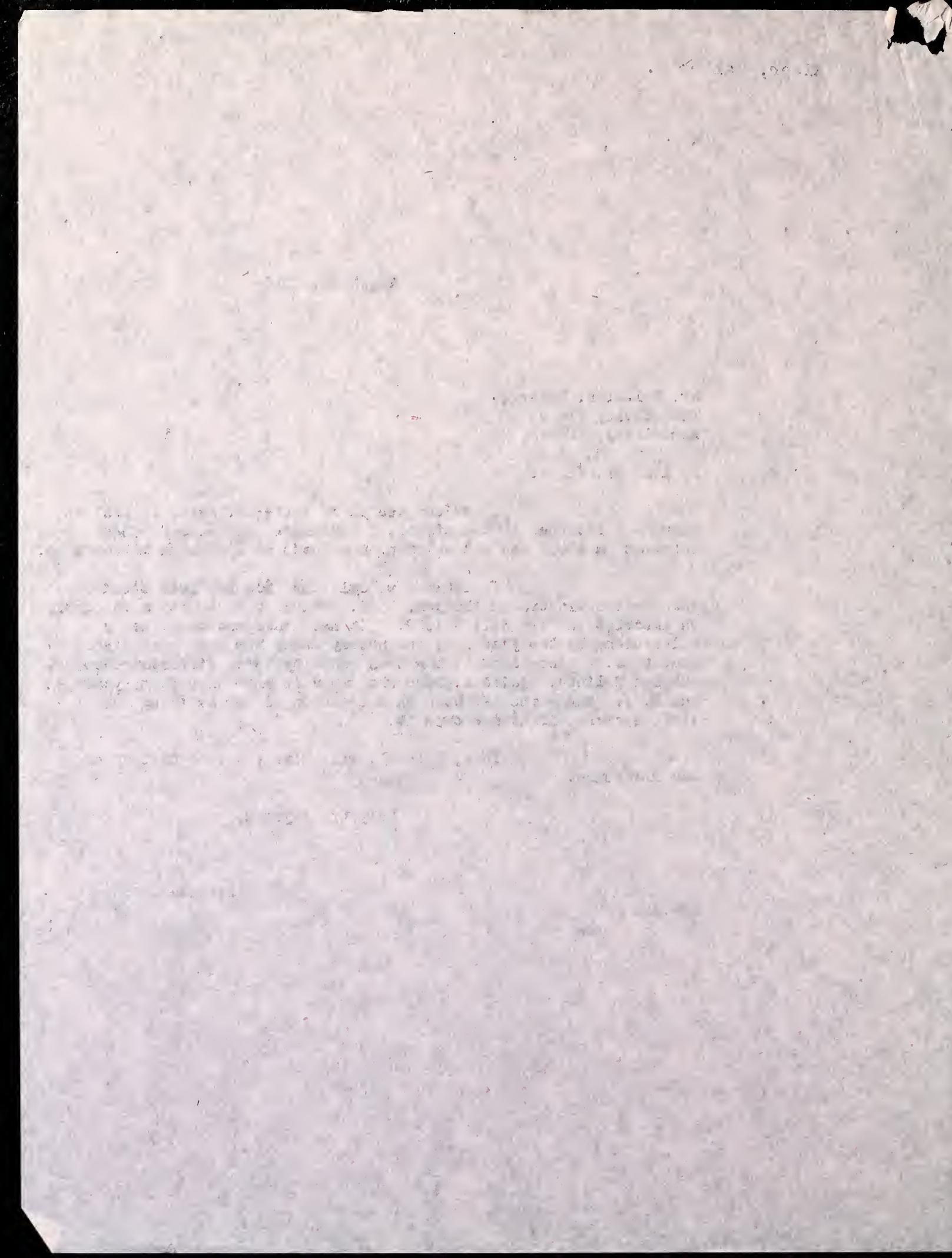
It is what we call the "Old Ben Hell structure" and was constructed in the year 1802. There used to be in the gable an inscription "Ben Hell - 1802." It had undergone over twenty alterations by the year 1869 and nobody knows how many more since that time. Since 1880 it has been owned by three different parties, Stephen Elliott, Squire H. Bush who owned it more than forty years, and R. J. Skaggs who has been in possession of the building for sixteen years, if he now owns it.

This, I think, will give you some history of the old house.

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:AAM



July 9, 1941

Mr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln Foundation
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Warren:-

You will find enclosed a copy of the Squire Samuel Pate Homestead and picture which appeared in the Louisville Times on February 10, 1941. I thought you would like to have a copy of it.

Some time ago the writer of this letter was at Morganfield, Ky. and made some sketches of places (House & Hotel, of which I was told had something to do with Lincoln. Since you were a pastor of the Christian Church in Morganfield for a number of years you might be able to tell me if there any truth about Lincoln staying in the Old Kentucky Hotel on Morgan Street opposite the Union County Jail. This is an old building. It has been told the writer that he made a political speech at the spring just near Main St., Morganfield.

Another place I made a sketch of is the Mc Coughtry Place now owned and occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Briscoe Taylor. I was told that there was some letters written by Lincoln in the house but have been taken to California, by a former resident. I understand that there was a mill on this place and Lincoln came from Illinois and had some of his corn ground here at this mill. This place is located in Union County about 8 miles from Morganfield (on the Old Raleigh Rd) and about 2 or 3 miles from Shawneetown, Ill.

I would like to know if you know anything about any of these places that have to do with Lincoln or whether this is just legend or if there is any truth about these places and Lincoln.

Again thanking you for your kindness of the past and shall await your reply on the enclosed stamped envelop and paper, I am

Yours truly,

Walter H. Kiser

1504 Shelby Place

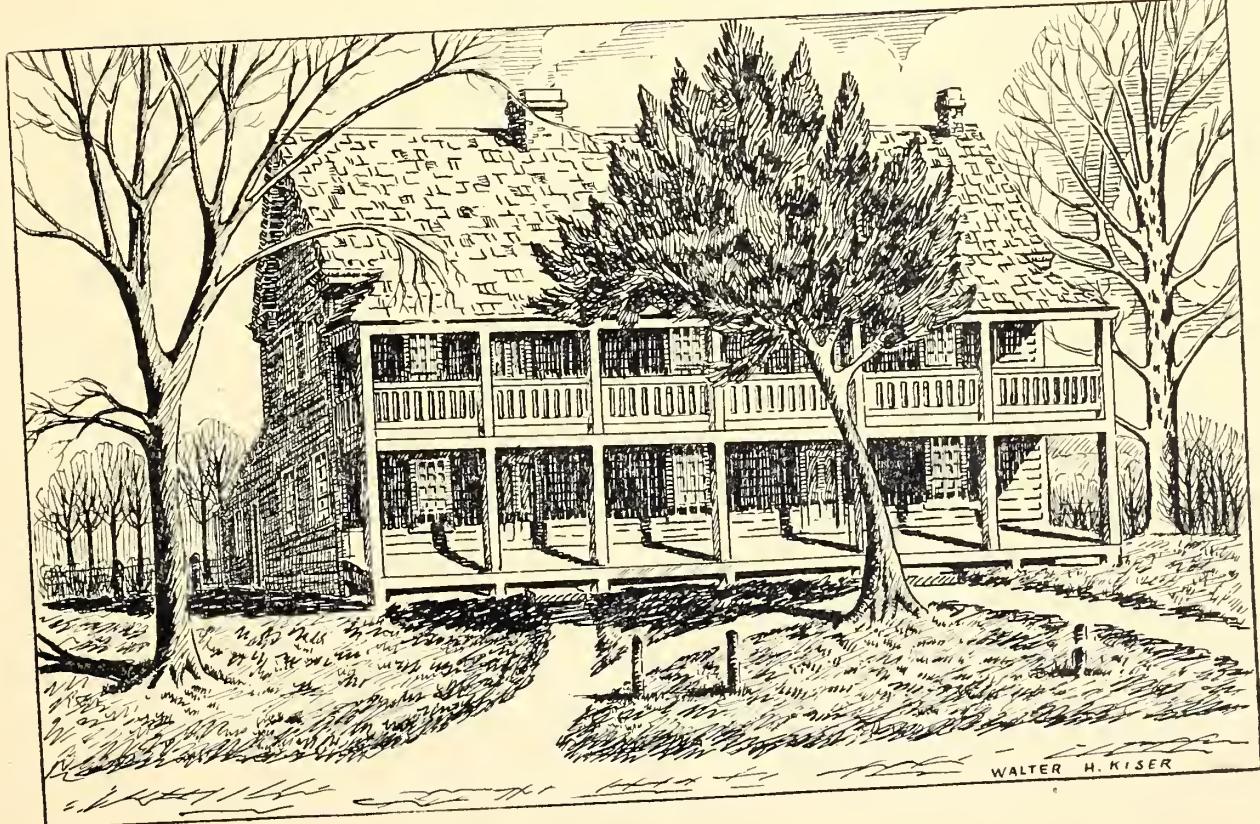
New Albany, Indiana.

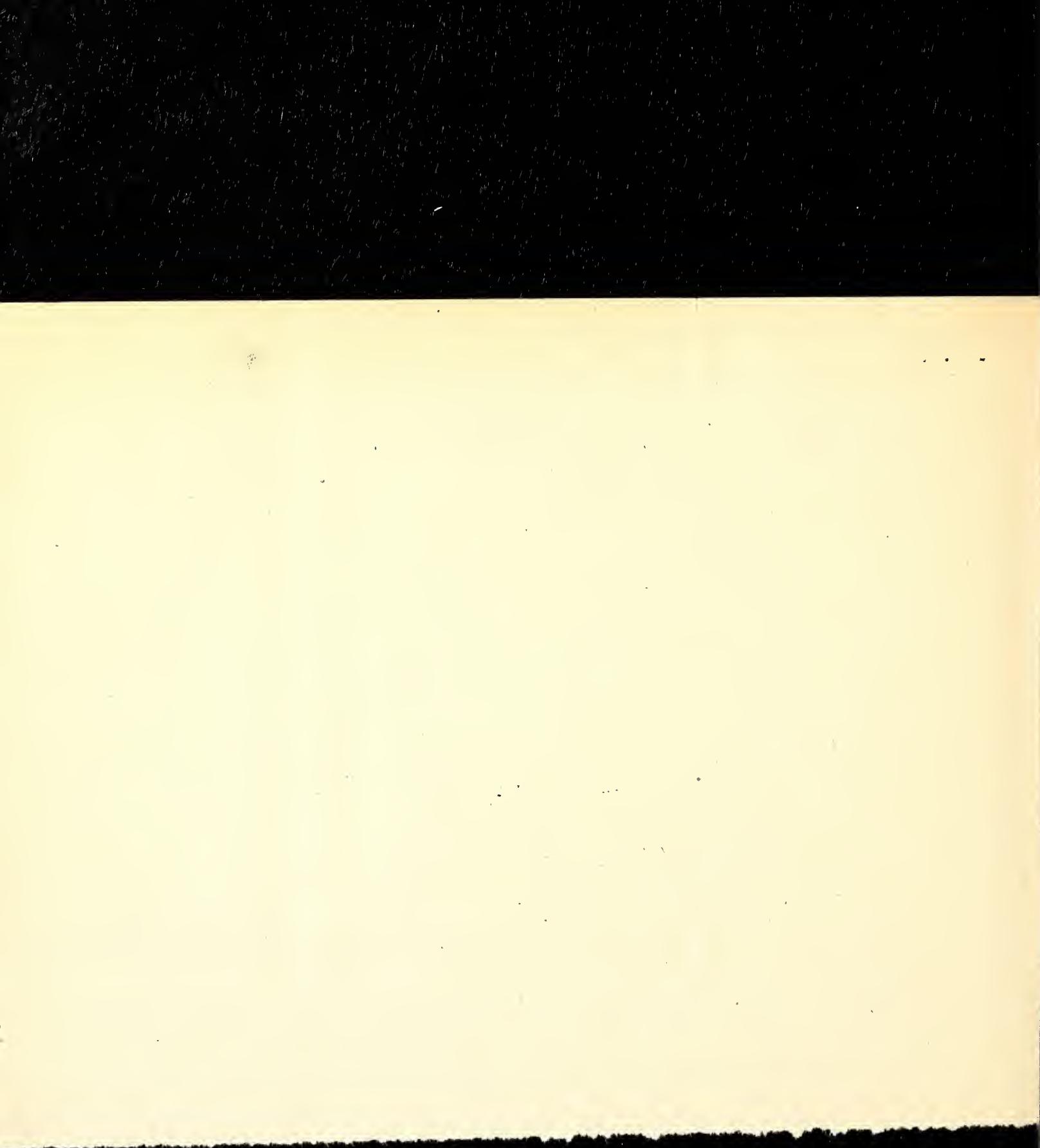


This picture appeared in the Louisville Times "Neighborhood Sketches"
on February 10, 1941 Monday

Squire Samuel Pate Homestead

near Lewisport, Ky.





Squire Samuel Pate Homestead
near Lewisport, Ky.

This weather-boarded log house is about four miles from Lewisport on the Troy Road and is approached through a long shady lane.

It was built by Squire Samuel Pate who, on March 11th, 1824, married Miss Arritta Thrasher and immediately thereafter began construction of this home which was completed in 1827. It is located on a piece of land containing fifty acres, a gift from the bride's father, and an additional fifty acre tract was then acquired by Squire Pate.

The house contains five rooms and hall downstairs, four rooms and hall upstairs, and attic. The window glass is hand blown, the flooring is of broad poplar boards and originally there were two huge fireplaces with high mantelpieces. A long, wide, spacious veranda extends across the front of the house.

In the year 1827, in the large east front room, ABRAHAM LINCOLN was brought to trial for the alleged conveying of passengers from the Indiana shore to make connection with passing steam boats. Suit against him was brought by Dill brothers(John T. and Lin) who held exclusive ferry rights on the Ohio River at this particular point. Lincoln pleaded his own case and was dismissed by Squire Pate.

The present owner is Mrs. Robert G. Higdon, a member of the Third Generation, and the widow of Robert G. Higdon who for twenty-six years was reporter for the Court of Appeals. Another descendant is Mr. C. E. Gregory , Political Editor of the Atlanta Journal.

